

Message Text

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11/50

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 DRC-01 PM-07 CIAE-00 INR-11

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7175

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DA

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR TAGS AND SUBJECT

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: MCAP BEXP NATO MARR

SUBJECT: PROCEDURAL PROTEST OF NAMSA CONTRACT AWARD- HAWK KLYSTRONS

SECDEF FOR OASD (I&L) MR D CUFFE; USNHLO FOR LTC NELSON;

DA FOR DCSLOG, FR W JACKSON.

REF: A. STATE 177939

B. USNATO 4350

C. USNATO 4415

1. US MEMBER OF NATO HAWK BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD) INFORMED BOD BY MESSAGE THIS DATE OF US POSITION (REF A) WITH RESPECT TO PROTEST BY VARIAN ASSOCIATES TO NAMSA REGARDING HAWK POWER KLYSTRON PROCUREMENT. MESSAGE URGED BOD TO GIVE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION TO PROBLEM, WITH VIEW TO CANCELLATION OF AWARD TO THOMSON C.S.F., AND PROVIDE POSITIVE DIRECTION TO NATO HAWK MANAGEMENT OFFICE (NHMO) AND NAMSA TO ENSURE EQUITABLE AND PROPER HANDLING OF FUTURE PROCUREMENTS. MESSAGE HIGHLIGHTED IMMINENT PROCUREMENT ACTION ON 845 REFLEX KLYSTRONS WITH BID OPENING SCHEDULED FOR 19 AUG 74. (REF B).

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2. FURTHER COORDINATION WITH NHMO AND NAMSA ESTABLISHED THAT N-H DEPUTY GEN MGR (COL KLOSE) WILL DISCUSS MATTER OF WITHHOLDING OR AT LEAST DELAYING CONTRACT SIGNATURE ON POWER KLYSTRON CONTRACT (REF C) WITH NAMSA GEN MGR (GEN GENTSCH)

ON MONDAY MORNING, 19 AUG 74. INDIVIDUALS ARE EXPECTED TO CONCLUDE THAT THEY ARE WITHOUT AUTHORITY TO WITHHOLD CONTRACT SIGNATURE OR TAKE FURTHER CANCELLATION ACTION ON POWER KYSTRON AWARD UNTIL THEY RECEIVE SPECIFIC DIRECTION FROM N-H BOD. UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT OF N-H BOD WOULD BE REQUIRED TO REVERSE CONTRAT AWARD. UNANIMITY IS UNLIKELY WITH FRANCE, ITALY, AND BELGIUM EXPECTED TO SUPPORT CONTINUATION OF CONTRACT WITH THOMSON C.S.F. REGARDLESS OF PROCUREMENT AWARD IRREGULARITIES, POSSIBLE SAVINGS TO THE H-H PRODUCTION AND LOGISTICS ORGANIZATION (NHPLO). OR PRESSURE FROM THE USG. FORECAST IS FAVORABLE. HOWEVER, FOR CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED PROCUREMENT PRACTICES IN THE FUTURE. FRG, NETHERLANDS, DENMARK AND GREECE DO NOT TAKE KINDLY TO BLUNDERS ON THEPART OF NHMO SUCH AS THE POWER KLYSTRON PROBLEM AND PARTICULARLY WHEN THE BLUNDER RESULTS IN EXTRA COSTS TO THE NHPLO. THESE FOUR NATIONS HAVE BEEN WILLING TO SUPPORT SOMEWHAT MORE COSTLY PROCUREMENT FROM EUROPEAN SOURCES BUT DEFINITELY NOT SUCH PROCUREMENT AT ANY PRICE. THIS INCIDENT WILL CAUSE THEM TO SCRUTINIZE MORE CAREFULLY EVERY PROCUREMENT ACTION BY NHMO WHICH IS ONE REDEEMING FEATURE OF AN OTHERWISE UNFORTUANATE AFFAIR. MCAULIFFE

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